

In BRONZE, on
EACH PLUG AND PACKAGE.

MONEY TO LOAN.
Agency Western Canada Loan Savings Co.,
Fire Marine and Life Insurance.

Mr. F. Russel is visiting his parents.

etc., besides many dangerous complaints affecting the kidneys themselves, as Bright's disease, uremia, etc. ~Regulate the kidneys with Buckle Blood Purifiers, the best diuretic and kidney remedy ever devised.

Flour
Potatoes
Black Currants 1/2

THE BRANDON MAIL

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TO CORRESPONDENTS

Correspondents must invariably send us their name and address, confidentially, but not necessarily for publication.

The Brandon Mail.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1889.
VOL. 6. No. 33.

MORE REFORMS WANTED

From the representations made by the friends of the Local Government our would be led to infer that when they addressed the French language and the separate took through the mill there are no means returns to be made in the country, and that for these blessings the people should give them a lease of office for a lifetime. This, however, is but so much talk. The province is as unevenly taxed as it is possible for a province to be, and equality, or at least a revision of the assessment laws to meet the cases as is usually needed, as it will can be. There should be no tax exemptions, except perhaps municipal property such as town halls etc. which are the common asset of all the rate payers in the municipality. School houses, churches, parsonages etc. should also be assessed at their proper value, and while the taxation would be to a certain extent taking the money out of pockets and putting it into another, it could not be wholly so. The revenue that should come under a change from the exempted properties would then be equalized which cannot be under the present law. If a religious denomination, or association of a property more valuable in proportion to numbers than the neighbourhood be less the burdens are equalized. Since may as this would be harsh as it would be a premium on indolence, and out a poor encouragement to religious or other enterprise, but it would only be carrying into effect the law at present in existence. The non-tax non puts in a better residence, or more improvements on his lot or his farm than his neighbors, that moment the assessor levies higher rates on him. The abolition of all exemptions would only be carrying out in regard to classes, denominations, sects or corporations, what is now observed in respect of individuals.

The law is sadly in default as regards wholesale houses, retailers, mortgage companies, money lenders and private individuals in the capacity of business men, farmers, laborers or mechanics. The principle of taxation is to get at what every man or firm is actually worth, and tax him or them accordingly, but it is sadly abused. The retail dealer, for instance, is only worth what his stock is worth over liabilities, and he should pay taxes on no more. The wholesale dealer should pay taxes on his interest in the stock and should be taxed on the stock in the municipality in which it is situated accordingly. The observance of such a rule might lead to many complications but the principle is right, and a little attention to it would simply modify the details. The land owner again should pay taxes on but his interest in the property he mortgage his, or money lenders should pay taxes on income. Let us illustrate. Supposing a farmer in the municipality of Daly has a farm worth \$3,000 and it is mortgaged to the Manitoba Mortgage and Investment Co. for \$1,500. On attention it should be assessed at only \$1,500, as the mortgage Company should be assessed on income for the benefit of the municipality of Daly, for the \$1,500 remainder. Now the bulk of these loaning companies have their head offices either in Toronto or Winnipeg and they are assessed on income in these cities for the benefit of these cities. Is there a substantial reason why this should be the case? We assert there is none. For the fact these companies have incomes they are from the municipalities in which they hold their mortgages, and it is into these treasuries of these municipalities the taxes on incomes ought to be paid. If it were done it would lighten the assessment of the mortgaged and others in these municipalities, and be doing simple justice to the country besides. The argument is that if money lenders, and loan companies had to pay taxes at the same rate as property holders in the face of their mortgages, into the municipalities in which they held their mortgages it would result in raising the rate of interest and would rate borrowers would

have to pay. True, but would it not be better for a farmer for instance to pay 5% interest for what he borrowed than eight, if thereby he was assessed for his farm what his farm was worth over encumbrances, rather than on the whole assessed value, and besides it would diminish the rate on those who owed no mortgages. It would equalise the rate all around and that is what all desire.

Again the government in its present position should do something for the benefit of the hardend school districts. We believe the government makes its boast of having a million dollars in the treasury, or at least the banks, to its credit. The idea is to show this money has been made out of savings, and that it is, therefore, a economical administration. The fact is it is only a portion of the million and a half raised from sacrificed bonds, for railway construction, on the advent of the present party to power. The government is paying \$5 for this money and lending it to the banks at 4 . . . The question is can there be nothing better done with this money in the public interest? We know of school districts that have issued 10 per cent debentures and sold them at par or next to it. Why don't the government invest their money in these securities at the rate they are paying for the money 5 . . . and give the districts the benefit of it? Would not this become to talk about their lending it to the banks at 1 . . . of a yearly loss? Yes, the government should, say even farther, it should pledge its credit for the purchase of it such heavy interest bearing debentures whether of school or of municipalities, and relieve the people of the difference between what the people are paying and what the government can borrow for, or enable the municipality or districts to borrow, with their endorsement. The more a government becomes the banking house of the people, the more it is stealing surty the more the people prosper. This is proved in many countries and would be equally true in Manitoba. There are many other reforms the government might well make in the interest of the people and we will deal with them from week to week.

We may say in this connection there is the necessity for a Conservative convention to lay down a line of action the government ought to take hold for the relief of the people. Relieved of the clogs on the heels, by the total vote of the old Conservative faction, the true Conservatives of the country are now at liberty to take up the real interests of the country, the consideration of what is best for its future and to commit itself to proper principles of future government.

SOMETHING NEEDING EXPLANATION.

This is what the local Grit organ has to say about the transient delay in the erection of the new post office. Yes; the Grit print is very ready in suggesting the necessity for explanations, but it very rarely makes them. The public, of course, knew it was wrong that the Post Office contract was not let to a Winnipeg man or some other outsider at figures higher than Mr. Hanbury's offer; or that some of the clerks in the Ottawa departments did not give the figures in Mr. Hanbury's tender to Mr. Kelly before the work was let, which Mr. Bateman, one of the tenders on the Reformatory, says was the case at Winnipeg. But the Ottawa government, do not keep their "private papers in their private safes" for nothing, they keep them there for privacy, which unfortunately it appears Mr. Smart is unable to do. Let the local Grit print say point-to-point whether it was or was not a fact one of Mr. Greenway's clerks gave the figures in other tenders to Mr. Kelly before the Reformatory contract was let, and it may then be sufficiently freed from Grit bigotry to be able to see for itself the substantial reason for the delay in the post office construction. It is for the same reason that the Reformatory has been delayed, the absence of cut stone through default in a contractor, though the Reformatory structure requires but a small supply in comparison with the Post Office, and still the Grit print is in search of explanations. No doubt the new Post Office is badly needed, but no worse than reason or fair play in the Sun, but this is not a reason that insurmountable obstacles can be overcome. The government knew well in defining the terms on which the work would be let, that there would be more or less difficulty in getting materials at all times, and if contractors were compelled to surmount these by limitation of time, at whatever hazards, men of smaller means would be unable to compete, and the work would necessarily cost a larger sum, with which no one could be more willing to complain than the Sun itself. The intention of the government and the contractor is to have a good job done at as low a figure as possible while the Sun is sworn to find fault in consequence, we are confident the public are not.

It may be as is alleged that the Grits have a larger financial stake in the city than the government supporters, but even that is not confirmed by the bald statement of our confreres; but of this at least we are confident they have a larger stake

in political capital for their friends: that they have no integrity in government contracts or the public welfare. The way that local contractors were choked off in the Reformatory contract is not a very good proof of the deep seated regard of the party, with Mr. Smart at its head, for the welfare of the place even considering their financial interest in it.

THAT EMBEZZLEMENT FIZZLES

That celebrated case of "The Crown" that is Joe Martin's person, and they go some criminal prosecutions these days—the name of the Crown, against Martin McDonald, ex-registrar, Brandon, for embezzlement came up before the Hon. Judge Walker on Monday. It having been advanced from the Police Court unto P. M. Todd, and a greater fine it would be impossible to convict. The charge was for embezzling the records of the office, and the penalty would have been 14 years imprisonment, had the case been made out. No doubt the two heads of Angus Martin and Hon. Joseph (and the two

IS IT ONLY A SPEAT FOR A WHILE
AFTER ALL.

At Dalton McCarthy's meeting at Bateau la Prairie, Mr. Martin, Attorney General, is reported in the newspaper of that town owned in part by his own law partner, to have spoken as follows:

Now in addition to this question, as "teachers there should be two kinds of schools or not, it seemed to him that there was, rather carelessness or apathy, there in the Division. Although a large amount had been molested there, better education obtained in the Roman Catholic schools than in the Protestant. "Now for years the principle which we trusted him was the distinct separation of church from state. And if any were to make this change he would have to sell upon the support of the Reverend gentlemen present to make the teaching in the schools one of simple education, and leave religion for the family or the church. On the platform he asked their support. They proposed to do that stand in the House, to stand or fall by it. If the constitution did not admit of their doing this they proposed to appeal to the Imperial Authorities to give them the power.

We want our teachers and all to read that in contrast with the following from last week's Brandon Sun, written by Mr. A. M. Peterson, the pumpkin of Mr. James A. Smart in the west, and, therefore, the indirect utterance of their Honorable gentleman:

"In the first place it has not been pronounced to establish separate schools.

"The contention is that anomalies do exist; it is then the clear duty of the Government, to provide for their removal."

THE N. P. DEPOT LOCATION.

Although the meeting called on Thursday evening to discuss this question resulted comparatively nothing, the injury likely to be done the city by locating it north of Prince's avenue remains unaltered. The meeting Mayor Fraser admitted gave the railway officials to understand they would be permitted to close certain surveyed streets that were not well graded and used, through whatever locks they purchased, which may mean more than the public have any idea of. The city is yet in its infancy and it is not within the comprehension of any resident how a half projected streets may and may not be very important to the future in the future. These streets belong to the city, and to the railway company may yet prove a valuable asset. This doubt is an influence to take the railway south at the expense of the people, and on that and other considerations, the company evidently lay considerable stress. The company do not hesitate to say they prefer, for location, the corner of Ross street and 6th, and that they should be easily seen, as it places them so much nearer to a connection with other roads existence and projected, which they must have, if they calculate on doing long northern and western trade. As demands for right-of-way and terminal points in this locality are reasonable, it punishes no great stretch of judgment to follow the indications that lead them away from the locality of their choice when there is but so little in the way to prevent them from securing it are stronger than any are led to believe they are. We are all only too sorry if the future shows there are some that are at present from now under the surface.

The history of all important points in the country shows the real prosperity naturally divided into three principal factors, the commercial or business part, the commercial avenues embracing land and water inlets and outlets; and the residential portion, and the more these are kept together and distinct from one another, the better for the place. Go Toronto, Detroit or in fact any large city on the continent, and you find all railways centering in one locality, the business portion in the second and the residences in the third. In some instances when the railways gaudies around cities they have wisely stopping places at the principal thoroughfares for the convenience of passengers getting on and

Now were it in a nutshell, there is neither a dissent in the government, nor as the course they shall take on this important question, of there is to be the political fraud of the age practised upon the people of this province. We know that under a Manitoba act passed a few years ago and regulations of the Board of Education founded upon it, a great disparity exists in the payments of government grants to the common and separate schools, that the apportionment is on the specific principle and not in accordance with either attendance or results. The utterance of Mr. Stuart indirectly, as quoted above, clearly shows the intention of the government is to temperance merely, for the obtaining of Protestant votes, and in a way to cession as little opposition from the Catholic electorate as possible, to change their own statute so as to equalize the legislative grants according to results. Is that abolishing the separate schools? On it is dealing with the question, as the public were led to believe the government intended to deal with it.

Now Mr. Martin said the question was whether there should be two kinds of schools or not. He called upon the clergyman of the province to help him (the member of clergyment he is) and declared that the constitution did not admit of their doing this (abolishing the second kind of schools); they proposed to appeal to the Imperial Authorities to give them the power. Now as little as Mr. Smart and his wet nurse in the Law office in the west end know about the constitution, they know it does not need Imperial assistance to maintain any legislature to annul a statute of their own creation, or the regulations of a Board of Education founded upon it, but the point does not rest upon even this, but it was the constitution Mr. Martin proposed to have changed by an appeal to the Imperial authorities, and, therefore, for provincial permission to do something, acts of their own would not allow them to do - to empower them to abolish the two kinds of schools' - and not to compare with the question as Mr. Smart's own answer to do.

Here are two spirits of the government preaching the bull, the one playing with his tail, the other attempting the ridg on his horns. Of course the bull will stand neither, and we much mistake the temper of the people of this province if they will be satisfied with such partisan mystifying either.

To see why for abolishing the French language is a never-made shift at best, for while the constitution provides for the use of the French as well as the English, it makes no provision for the expenditure, either, so simple as stating that in future but 300 a year shall be expended on the French without effect settle the question without a change in a large in the constitution. We are content the government has not the power within itself to wipe out these separate schools, but it has the power to petition the Imperial Authorities for permission to do so, and nothing short of this, being and doing as Stuart, Peterson of *his grace*, may do, will ever satisfy the people of the province. Sustaining separate schools in Manitoba is but duplicating expenditure, and in so far as education is the abstract concerned, for the one is ill. Take the circumstances in Brandon for instance. There is the convent and the central building both at heavy expense on the one the people supplied with two staffs of teachers, both boarded in water at heavy cost, and for doing, in so far as education is concerned, the work that could be just as well done in the central building without increasing the cost of that institution on a five cent piece in a twelve month. The same thing, the same staff of teachers, the same expenditure would answer all purposes. It is of course true that in the convent schools, well work, music and similar things taught that could not be taught in the collective, but under private individuals they would not cost the parents of children who contribute extra any more than the convent present.

For instance last year the government grant to the convent was \$425 for probably no more than a dozen resident Catholic pupils. The amount raised by tax on the city was \$134, thus totaling \$559, which might just as well, if sentiment did not stand in the way, have been applied on the support of our collegiate, reducing the tax on the whole city by nearly \$1000.

to bring about such a state of affairs, of course, all religious teachings, and of which there is at present but little in the public schools, would have to be abolished, and the same Protestant schools offered under the statute. The religious instruction would then fall either to the clergy, men, and if there were not enough of that profession in Barmen to do it, it would speak all the better of their inefficiency. Am confident this is what the people want. It is, we are at least certain, what the genuine Conservatives of the province desire to see are accomplished; and if Smart and Co. are only prepared to offer damages for land and serpens for men, let the people defend the fact as was possible.

At Hingham Municipal Police Court, on Thursday a woman named Sarah Fisher living in Little Rock, Ark., William Barker, 30, of Little Rock, and a man named Edward J. Connelley, 32, of Little Rock, were received from her son, who was in Canada and wished to return. It was stated that the young man was sent out, with others, by a mission in Fulham. The letter bore the name of "The Ladies' Aid Society of Little Rock, Ark." and was addressed to "Mr. Connelley, 1000 Grand St., Little Rock, Ark." It stated that while he was writing he was almost dying for want of a meal and did not know how to get one, that he had to sell his clothes for food, and was as thin as a stick. The letter was signed "Ed." Barker, and Connelley had returned. Mr. Mead, after reading the letter, said he was sorry he could not assist her. The case would act as a warning to others not to leave the country too early, and might induce some other deluded persons to travel with the same aim.

It is supposing that English papers will in this day publish such stuff as the foregoing about this country. We have made full enquiries, and we can find no such bill calling for mail matter at the Brandon post office, nor can we find that a man of such a name ever got mail matter here. That is substantial evidence the report is made up one from the start. Nor would it prove distressing times in Manitoba even if true. We know of no country ever in the sun in which a man could not starve himself to death if he was so disposed as well as in Manitoba. It is true that paying situations cannot always be had in this province, but it rarely happens that reliable men willing to work cannot find plenty to do to keep them from starving or even selling themselves. By the way, would it not be well for one of these same English papers to show that the present strike on the docks of England is not the result of the payment of wages scarcely sufficient to keep men and body together, before they resort to destitution as being at all general in any other country.

Since the foregoing was put in type, we have seen a copy of the Canadian Gazette published in England, which shows, Mr. Charles Tupper, High Commissioner, took no trouble, on seeing the report in print, to enquire of Mr. Baker, immigration agent there, as to the facts of the case. Mr. Baker found John's statement, as we expected, was false in every particular. He was hired with a farm here for a year at \$10 the first month and \$10 a month thereafter the balance of the year. He turned up five days after, refusing to work. He frequently had equally good offers of a situation, but refused them all. He hired first on 3rd of May, and left for Winnipeg on 22nd of July. He had sufficient money on going away to leave \$50 with a friend behind. Mr. Baker found

many other facts connected with his being, it would not be to his credit to have published. Neither could Mr. Baker find that other English laids returned at the time. It is really a pity that respectable old country journals will give publicity to such yarns until they learn the second side of the story. If a young man refuses 810 a month and board, and prefers to starve, it would be a small loss if he was allowed to have his preference in full.

Probably the precise story of how Manitoba's railroad monopoly was cut down will never be written, but we are not at least wanting for theories. It is an open question whether or not Sir John had made up his mind to get rid of monopoly before Mr. Norquay went out of office. Winnipeg Sun.

It is not a fact the Winnipeg journal does not know whether or not Sir John had made up his mind to get rid of himself before Mr. Winnipeg went out of the country which might appear to be the case in a paper written without reason or consistency but merely to tickle Winnipeg's eccentricities as they develop from day to day, to bolster up the great cause, which is that that threatening and headstrong to be thanked for the removal of that alleged burden upon the people. This is that it is public world is likely to understand. If the matter is really an open question as the Mail has forced the paper to come to, why then does it not say so whenever the question comes up for consideration in the country? Let people be honest about it for what their consciences may be in the party vote.

Arrested For Murder.

Detective McNenroe, of Winnipeg, has been in the city for some days, and the shooting ones suspected there was something on the boards. In company with Detective Foster, he went to Egan's. If Kump yesterday, he arrested a man there for murder in Michigan, some time since. Up to going to press we are unable to get further particulars, but they will be on the surface in a day or so.

Toronto, Sept. 5. Sir John Macdonald, in replying to an address presented to him at the opening of the Port Arthur asylum for the insane, said: "From the letter he had recently received from the Lieutenant Governor of the Northwest, he had learned that the experimental farm there was working miracles in the way of teaching the people to grow wheat. The Government, against all the prognostications of the crop failures above the gate, there were very low failures, and where these occurred they could be traced to bad seed. I had written. Some of the farmers of the Northwest have been successful. I saw and saw last year by high prices. They sold all their wheat at \$1.00 per bushel, and bought frozen wheat at 20 cents a bushel for seed. Frozen seed had not come up to expectations. It was not at all the same as the tempting prices offered for the grain this year."

Toronto, Aug. 27. The Society for the Promotion of Agricultural Art in Ontario university today. Prof. Kedzie of the Michigan Agricultural college, presided. Various papers were read, the most important of them dealing with the subject of arsenical poisons as insecticides.

The principal paper read was one by Prof. J. H. Bland of the University of Minnesota, who reported on wheat grown at single plants in the Experimental Station, Ottawa, Canada. Ten samples of Ely's from Canada and the United States were grown and these gave an average oil fraction over 25 heads to each plant and 4 kernels to each head, with a yield 730 bushels per acre.

It is worthy of note that while five samples of wheat from the United States yielded an average of 656 bushels per acre from the Canadian Northwest 24,912 bushels, from which it would appear that the Canadian Northwest had not only greater vigor, sufficient in fact to make a difference of over 45 per cent. in yield. From official returns it appears that the average yield of wheat is much higher in the Canadian Northwest than in the North and West of our states. While this might be partially due to the quality of the soil, it would appear to result mainly from the inherent vigor of the seed, and the conclusion to be drawn is that Canadian wheat is much better for seed. Russian wheat ranks second in importance but the reason why such great loss of production experiments has been carried out on experimental farms at Brandon and Indian Head, which will show further light on this important subject.

A CORRUPT SYSTEM.

It is blood that corrupts the entire system and cause scurvy, cancer, swellings, ulcers, rheumatism, erysipelas, sore eyes and skin diseases, as shingles, tetter, etc. Burdock Blood Purifier purifies the blood and cleanses, tonics and strengthens the entire system.

[illegible]

By order, A. GORRILL,
Secretary,
Department of Public Works,
Ottawa, 13th Aug. 1890.

CURIOUS THINGS OF LIFE.

The town of Springer, Oklahoma, has a population of 20 inhabitants in 5,000 in sixteen years.

A single mill was found in a perfectly fresh state recently by a farmer near Toledo, Mich.

A Scotch grave digger once said: "I never saw all the men, I have a burial in a coffin for three weeks."

A Cedar Rapids, Ia., clergyman recently took this for a text: "Can a man with a family work for 200 a month and be a Christian?"

"The Mail," the Chinese dwarf, the smallest of his kind, is a Chinese, aged 30 years, is so small that he can come into a room with an ordinary plaid hat.

All the money Capt. Kidd ever buried on the shores of the United States did not amount to \$200,000, while hundreds of thousands have been expended in search of him.

One of the Caroline islands is owned by an American sailor named Benjamin, who has seven wives, about fifty children, and has nothing but his pipe and his hat for his property. He is a native of the island.

John S. B. M. McCallan, of Portland, Me., claimed in 1880 that he was the first to use a house built of wood, and the first to use a house built of wood.

When the "Venus" was launched, it was reported that it had reached the limit of its speed, and that it was the fastest ship in the world.

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STRAY BITS.

There are in India about 200,000,000 of snakes, but only thirty-three of these are poisonous.

No Laplander has ever written a song, and no Laplander has ever written a book. No wonder they are a happy people.

The London Times has the figures to show that Spain has degenerated faster than any nation on earth—even faster than Patagonia.

The statistics of New Zealand prove that seven out of every ten women left widows under the age of 35 marry again within two years.

The electric light is making great progress in Berlin, the number of lamps now in use there being about 25,000, against 500 at the end of 1881.

The word "folklore," invented by the late W. J. Thomas for use in English, has been adopted by the French and appears in the titles of new publications.

Experimenters at Manhattan, Kan., have discovered that the use of salt on wheat fields will greatly increase the yield. It is also an antidote for the rust of wheat.

The Pacific Indians have become civilized, and the use of salt is now common. The Indians have become civilized, and the use of salt is now common.

According to experiments recently made the tensile strength of a wet rope is only one-third that of a dry rope. The rope is only one-third that of a dry rope.

In its editorial department The Detroit Free Press has eleven persons whose services are avowedly avowed. The management is avowedly avowed.

There has been a case in Geneva, a musical box that plays entire operas, the solos rendered by pipes representing the human voice. The box is a musical box.

Editorial keepers at Monte Carlo endeavor to have the habitual players pay their bills considerably in advance, lest, in a bit of disappointment over great losses, they cannot make good the balance due their creditors.

Twenty years ago there were nine or ten lightning rods in the United States. Today there are but three, and these doing a trifling business. The lightning rod is doing a trifling business.

A Frenchman has invented a new system for propelling boats. It consists of an endless running along the two banks. The boat is propelled by the endless running.

One of the world's most successful trips in London. It runs on any kind of a street without the use of rails, while the so-called electric omnibuses of Paris is really a train car running on the rails.

There is nothing startling in the fact that many Russian people have been frozen to death this winter. It is the business of Russia to be very cold for three months in the year, and something would be lost if it were not.

One Newman, of Belleville, Ind., has a crow which has forsaken its kind, and associates with the chickens in the barnyard. At night it roosts with the poultry, and during the daytime feeds with them, and it is a well-dressed chicken.

A contrivance has lately been introduced on the railroads in Russia to indicate the next station at which the train will stop. It is a dial, the index of which points to the station. The dial is a contrivance.

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THE ASHES OF THE DEAD.

URNS FOR PRESERVING THE REMAINS OF THE DEPARTED.

Their Manufacture and Important Influence at East Liverpool, O.—Something About the Vessels Used by the Ancients. Cremation Growing in Favor.

Urn is the name of the vessel in which the dead are buried, and the manufacture of these vessels is an important industry in the pottery of East Liverpool, O., about forty miles west of this city. As cremation grows in popularity the necessity for these vessels increases. At first these vessels were made of earthenware, and the pottery of East Liverpool, O., about forty miles west of this city. As cremation grows in popularity the necessity for these vessels increases.

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MEG.

There was nothing rare or fine about her. On the contrary, there was a great deal of the animal in her face; a touch of the man in her pose, a bold suggestion of the woman in the cheap jewelry at ears and neck, and an unmistakable air of the circus in her toilet ensemble. Her eyes were gray and full. Bold eyes they were, that seemed to belong of right to the over full lips, and sensual curves of the over full figure. Her teeth were white, and when the lips parted they glittered, and that was all of brightness about her. Everything else suggested a slothful, easy temperament, thickness of mental fiber, dullness of moral perception.

Suddenly her face was transformed. She was undergoing one of her rare seasons of animation, and the face she turned to the man before her was full of play and life.

Her eyes sought his boldly, with a kind of snap in them, and when she laughed the snap was communicated to the rest of her face. It was a laugh of surprise, and it was a laugh of triumph.

But perhaps it was the man that suggested keenness, and lent a phase of his own vitality to her.

Like and tall and dark, with a wiry strength of physique, he gave one the impression of a panther, and a panther just prepared to spring.

There was a play of low cunning about his eyes, and the very devilry of jealousy lurked round his thin lips. As the two stood together the man's face was a study in the contrasts of domestic tragedy.

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MR. AND MRS. BOWSER.

THE PECULIAR PAIR DISCUSS TOPICS FOR CONVERSATION.

Mr. Bowser Corners Her Better Half, as Usual—Talking Sense to the Two-Year-Old Baby.

I had a caller the other afternoon when Mr. Bowser came home, and after she had gone he asked: "How long was Mrs. Blank here?" "About half an hour."

"About half an hour?" "Yes, she was here for half an hour."

"What else should we talk about?" "Mrs. Bowser, did it ever occur to you that there was anything in life beyond millinery and dress goods and dressmakers?"

"How?" "How? Why, select some subject of conversation, such as science, mineralogy, the labor question or self-government, and discuss it with calmness and justice, and learn something worth remembering for half an hour. You women folks might as well have been born with a pumpkin on your shoulders instead of a head."

I made no reply to this, but determined to catch Mr. Bowser in his own trap before the net was shut. Fortune favored me. It was only two days before a neighbor called over as he was at work in the back yard, and for two long hours these men sat down on a ladder, and discussed the question whether a back gate should open inward or outward, and the advantages offered by either situation. Mr. Bowser continued for the gate opening outward, and the neighbor for the inward, and the discussion resulted in Mr. Bowser getting up and clearing back the ears and jumping up to exclaim:

"Well, let's drop the subject right here. There can be cranks on silly gates as well as on politics and religion."

"And there can be lunatics outside of the asylums," he loudly replied to the neighbor.

"Don't call me a lunatic!" said Bowser.

"And don't you call me a crank!"

"Go home and hang your old gate to the moon!"

"I'll hang it according to the rules of common sense, and don't you forget it!"

When Mr. Bowser came in to wash his hands he observed:

"Mr. Bowser, and it ever occur to you that there was anything in life beyond hanging a back gate?"

He replied with a "humph" of disgust.

"Select some subject of science, Mr. Bowser—art, science, mineralogy, the labor question or self-government—and discuss it with calmness and judgment, and learn something worth remembering for half an hour. You women folks might as well have been born with a pumpkin on your shoulders instead of a head."

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